

4. (Amended) The method of Claim [1] ¹/₂, further comprising the step of adding a PNA tail to the 5'-end of P1 and P2 prior to said PCR amplification.

5. (Amended) The method of Claim [1] ¹/₂, further comprising the step of adding a PNA clamp to said transcriptionally active DNA molecule after said PCR amplification.

6. (Amended) The method of Claim [1] ¹/₂, further comprising the step of adding a PNA molecule via a linker [(PNA clamp tail)] to primers P1 and P2 prior to said PCR amplification.

1 ¹/₂ (Amended) [The] A method [of Claim 1,] of generating a transcriptionally active DNA molecule, comprising polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification of said DNA molecule in the presence of a first DNA fragment (F1), second DNA fragment (F2), first primer (P1), a second primer (P2), a third primer (P3), and a fourth primer (P4) wherein:

F1 comprises a promoter sequence;

F2 comprises a terminator sequence;

P1 is complementary to the 5' end of F1;

P2 is complementary to the 5' end of F2;

P3 comprises a first region complementary to the 3' end of F1 and a second region complementary to the 5' end of said DNA molecule, wherein a thymidine base immediately precedes said region of complementarity between said third primer P3 and said first DNA fragment F1; and

P4 comprises a first region complementary to the 3' end of F2 and a second region complementary to the 3' end of said DNA molecule, whereby a transcriptionally active DNA molecule is produced by said PCR amplification.

7 ¹/₂ (Amended) [The] A method [of Claim 1,] of generating a transcriptionally active DNA molecule, comprising polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification of said DNA molecule in the presence of a first DNA fragment (F1), second DNA fragment (F2), first primer (P1), a second primer (P2), a third primer (P3), and a fourth primer (P4) wherein:

F1 comprises a promoter sequence;

F2 comprises a terminator sequence;

P1 is complementary to the 5' end of F1;

P2 is complementary to the 5' end of F2;